

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

It is an object of the present invention is to provide an apparatus for discriminating an optical recording medium and a method for 5 discriminating an optical recording medium which can quickly discriminate the kind of an optical recording medium.

The apparatus for discriminating an optical recording medium according to the present invention includes a first electrode and a second electrode, an alternating current signal generation circuit for applying an 10 alternating current A to the first electrode, a detection circuit for detecting the level of an alternating current B appearing at the second electrode, and a control circuit for controlling the operations of the alternating current signal generation circuit and the detection circuit, and a table provided in the control circuit.

15 According to the present invention, in the case where two or more kinds of optical recording media in which the layer configuration and materials of layers between an incidence plane of a laser beam and a conductive layer formed on a substrate are different are marketed concurrently, it is possible to quickly discriminate each kind of optical 20 recording media.